FORUM: GENERAL ASSEMBLY
QUESTION OF: Measures to address the spread of misinformation in the digital world
MAIN SUBMITTER: Pakistan
CO-SUBMITTERS: Sweden, Estonia, Finland, Ethiopia, Brazil, Mexico, Poland

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Recognizing the misinformation can spread within a second, causing threats in public trust, democratic institutions, and public health,

Deeply concerned about creating public confusion that threatens trust in government or influences political decisions, interferes with governments responses and causes unnecessary public panic,

Recalling the 2022 March's incident in which a deepfake video that falsely depicted the Ukraine President calling on Ukrainian soldiers to surrender was circulated through hacked Ukrainian media outlets,

Acknowledging that misinformation can lead to harmful result and danger lives given that people rely on health information to decide their well-being care,

Understanding the crucial participation of United Nations agencies, international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), independent fact-checking organizations, educational institutions, and technology companies to address digital misinformation,

1. Calls upon Member of States to establish and strengthen framework for national digital prevention for misinformation through UN Digital Prevention Framework, proposing to address misinformation, disinformation, AI-generated content, and online radicalization through:
    a) Ensuring the foundation of independent national digital oversight committees to be responsible for accord with social media platforms, technology companies, educational institutions, and experts including,

i. Verified representatives related to technology, media, education, legal, and public policy such as UN advisor and professional organizations to share and provide various professional perspectives to create practical guidelines,
ii. Independently reviewing process to guarantee transparency, openness, and protection of express freely,

b) Requiring Member States to improve national policies according to their own respective legal laws, cultural values, and social circumstances while notifying internationally recognized human rights:
   i. Professional technology experts, academic researchers, and civil society Independent fact-checking organizations and media representatives,
   ii. organizations,
c) Promoting responsibility of the relevant committees including:
   i. Reinforcing and improving national guidelines for recognizing and reacting to misleading information,
   ii. Elaborating government agencies, national educational institutions, and digital platforms for coordinating information-sharing,
   iii. Publishing annual reports evaluating the effectiveness and human-rights impact of national prevention policies,
d) Asking with support to relevant United Nations bodies, including:
   i. Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), to support media and information literacy,
   ii. United Nation Development Programme (UNDP), to support institutional development and public awareness initiatives,
   iii. The United Nations Human Rights Council, to ensure that prevention measures respect fundamental human rights;

2. Calls upon social media platforms and companies, including Instagram, TikTok, WeChat, YouTube, and Facebook to develop detecting and distinguishing system to misinformation such as:
   a) Improving Artificial Intelligence identifying content:

i. Manipulated images, videos, audio recordings, and deepfakes,
ii. False information presented under names of official announcements,
iii. Content that promotes individuals into violent extremist activities,

b) Introducing clearer content identification systems by:
    i. Applying visible labels such as watermarks, and content provenance to identify AI-generated or manipulated media,
    ii. Providing verification badges for official institutions and reliable information sources,

c) Establishing transparent content moderating process by:
    i. Providing explanations when content is removed, restricted, or labelled,
    ii. Allowing users to appeal moderation decisions through accessible, procedures,
    iii. Requiring human review for high-impact decisions, when AI systems may incorrectly identify legitimate content as harmful,

d) Improving platform accountability and transparency by:
    i. Publishing regular transparent reports that contains information on content moderation and detection errors,
    ii. Reviewing recommendation algorithms that repeatedly promote misleading material,
    iii. Reducing the financial incentives for accounts that repeatedly distribute content identified as misleading;

3. Recommends strengthening international cooperation and information exchange between Member States, UN, technology companies, and independent organizations through:
    a) Developing a secure International Digital Information Database containing:
        i. Official public announcements and verified information that can be used to check misleading claims,
        ii. Research on misinformation and online radicalization trends across different regions,
        iii. Examples of effective national prevention strategies, such as public awareness campaigns,

b) Promoting cooperation with established international initiatives and organizations, including:
    i. The International Fact-Checking Network (IFCN), to promote coordination between factcheckers,
    ii. The Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism (GIFCT) and Tech Against Terrorism, to support efforts against online propaganda,
c) Ensuring technology companies to take responsible information-sharing by:
    i. Restricting database access to authorized institutions and relevant participating organizations,
    ii. Establishing clear procedures to correct inaccurate or outdated database entries;

4. Encourages Member States to cooperate with UNESCO, educational institutions, and community organizations to introduce accessible media and digital literacy programs through:
    a) Combining media literacy into school curricula to:
        i. Teaching students how to identify sources that are unreliable, and to spot misinformation and manipulated media,
        ii. Providing practical action of source verification, image checking, and comparing information across other reliable sources,
        iii. Urging to learn how to think critically and responsibility to online communication rather than memorizing lists of trusted sources,
    b) Organizing public education programs for communities, particularly groups with limited access to digital education by:
        i. Holding workshops in schools, libraries, and community centers,
        ii. Providing accessible learning materials for older people and individuals with limited digital literacy,
        iii. Collaborating with local NGOs to reach communities outside of major cities,
    c) Supporting public awareness campaigns by:

i. Creating short educational videos, posters, and online materials explaining how misinformation spreads,
ii. Promoting the responsible sharing of information before users repost or distribute online content;

5. Urges Member States to strengthen prevention measures in particularly sensitive areas, including public health and elections, through:
    a) Improving the distribution of accurate public health information in cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO) and national health expertise by:
        i. Providing possible explanations of public health announcements and scientific research,
        ii. Correcting misleading health-related claims through announcements of reliable information,
        iii. Suggesting assistance of health professionals, educational association, and independent media organizations,
    b) Protecting the trust of election-related information by:
        i. Emphasizing authorities to publish verified information about voting procedures, registration, and schedules,
        ii. Creating useful channels through which citizens can report potentially misleading election-related information,
        iii. Supporting independent monitoring and factchecking while protecting legitimate politic judgement,
    c) Encouraging rapid correction of misleading information by:
        i. Promoting cooperation between related public authorities and independent factcheckers,
        ii. Publishing corrections through the similarly accessible communication channels used to give away the original information,
        iii. Avoiding unnecessary restrictions on legitimate journalism, educational research, and peaceful political discussion;

6. Recommends developing responsible digital identity and data-protection policies that balance online accountability with individual privacy by:
    a) Promoting digital platforms such as YouTube and Twitter to use online verification system to protect user's privacy and personal information:
        i. Providing verification badges for recognized public institutions, health authorities, political authorities, and other relevant official sources,
        ii. Making the verification process transparent and accessible for everyone,
        iii. Setting clear standards for collecting relevant digital traffic disestablishing independent oversight and legal procedures for accessing retained information; and maintaining the right of individuals to use online platforms anonymously where has a under control and oversight by national law,
    b) Supporting the proposed Traffic Allocation Network Governance (TANG) framework, where appropriate and consistent with national law, by:
        i. Establishing clear standards for the collection of relevant digital traffics data,
        ii. Considering a five-year retention plan only then it is necessary,
    c) Protecting individuals from the misuse of personal information by:
        i. Requiring security measures to prevent and block unauthorized, success from hacker,
        ii. Establishing legal procedures to be able to access personal information;

7. Invites Member States, international organizations, universities, and technology companies to support research and technological innovation to prevent misinformation for preventing misinformation by:
    a) Hosting international hackathons and research competitions similar with initiatives such as the NASA International Space Apps Challenge that gives opportunities to everyone to explore technology and create own games, focusing on:

i. Enhancing accessible and easy tools to identify manipulated images, videos, and audio recordings in order to prevent people not to be deceived by those artifacts,
ii. Establishing educational application that could help users to assess the reliable online information,
iii. Encouraging collaboration between students from local schools, technology researchers, software developers, and civil society organizations,

b) Supporting research and development by:
   i. Funding research into the accuracy, and limitations of AI content detection systems,
   ii. Using the development of tools that can recognize as misleading content across different languages and cultural contexts;
   iii. Sharing research findings with Member States and relevant international organizations,

c) Exploring the establishment of a Social, Humanitarian, & Cultural Committees (SOCHUM) supported Digital Prevention Fund to:
   i. Support educational and technological projects in countries with limited digital resources,
   ii. Provide grants for youth-led initiatives and independent research projects,
   iii. Prioritize accessible, low-cost technologies that can be used for developing countries;

8. Calls for international financial and institutional support to implement initiatives, particularly in developing countries, through:
   a) Encouraging voluntary financial contributions and partnerships with relevant development institutions, including:
      i. The International Finance Facility for Education (IFFEd), to support educational initiatives,

ii. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and African Development Bank (AfDB), to explore support for relevant digital development and education projects,
iii. UNDP, UNESCO, and other relevant partners, to support national and community-based programmes,

b) Supporting community-level prevention initiatives by:
i. Working with the Organization for Prevention of Violence (OPV) and other relevant civil society organizations,
ii. Providing resources for local workshops, public awareness campaigns, and educational conferences,
iii. Ensuring involvement of citizens, schools, and local media,

c) Reaffirming international dialogue and knowledge exchange by:
i. Inviting the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (DGACM) to support the promotion and organization of relevant international conferences,
ii. Sharing effective practices between Member States through international forums,
iii. Considering the European Union's Digital Services Act as a reference when developing transparent platform-accountability policies, while respecting different national legal systems;

9. Requests Member States and relevant United Nations bodies to monitor, evaluate, and improve the effectiveness of these initiatives through:
a) Conducting regular research and public surveys in collaboration with the UN Development Coordination Office, UNESCO, WHO, UNDP, and relevant research institutions to:
i. Assess public awareness of misinformation, and deepfakes,
ii. Identify communities and groups that may require additional digital literacy support,
iii. Evaluate changes in public trust and the effectiveness of prevention campaigns,

b) Reviewing and improving national prevention policies by:
    i. Publishing periodic progress reports on the implementation of these measures,
    ii. Identifying weaknesses in existing detection, education, and moderation systems,
    iii. Encouraging Member States to share successful practices and recommendations through relevant United Nations forums.